

1. An image reading apparatus comprising:
selection means for selecting and connecting one of a plurality of
image forming apparatuses;

input means for inputting the management information and transmitting the input management information to the selected image forming apparatus, in accordance with a determination of said first determination means;

image reading means for reading the image of the original, based on a determination of said second determination means, and for transmitting an image signal representing the read image to the selected image forming apparatus.

3. An image forming apparatus comprising:

request means for transmitting a request for input of management information relating to a user of an image reading apparatus to the image reading apparatus when said image forming apparatus is selected by the image reading apparatus;

determination means for determining permission/prohibition of image reading based on the management information transmitted from the image reading apparatus, in accordance with the request for input, and for transmitting information relating to the permission/prohibition to the image reading apparatus; and

~~image processing means for receiving and processing an image signal transmitted from the image reading apparatus, in accordance with the information relating to the permission/prohibition.~~

4. ~~An image forming apparatus according to Claim 3, wherein said image processing means performs printing of the image signal.~~

5. An image forming apparatus according to Claim 3, wherein the image signal is a compressed image signal, and wherein said image processing means performs expansion processing of the compressed image signal.

6. An image reading method comprising:

a selection procedure for selecting and connecting one of a plurality of image forming apparatuses;

a first determination procedure for determining whether or not input of management information relating to a user is to be requested of the

~~user based on information received from the selected image forming apparatus;~~

an input procedure for inputting the management information and transmitting the input management information to the selected image forming apparatus in accordance with a determination in said first determination procedure;

a second determination procedure for determining information relating to permission/prohibition of image reading of an image of an original transmitted from the selected image forming apparatus in accordance with the input and transmitted management information; and

an image reading procedure for reading the image of the original, based on a determination in said the second determination procedure, and for transmitting an image signal representing the read image to the selected image forming apparatus.

7. An image reading method according to Claim 6, wherein said image reading procedure comprises a procedure for compressing the image signal and then transmitting the compressed image signal.

8. An image forming method comprising:

a request procedure for transmitting a request for input of management information relating to a user of an image reading apparatus to the image reading apparatus when an image forming apparatus is selected by the image reading apparatus;

~~a determination procedure for determining permission/prohibition of image reading based on the management information transmitted from the~~

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image reading apparatus, in accordance with the request for input, and for transmitting the information relating to the permission/prohibition to the image reading apparatus; and

an image processing procedure for receiving and processing an image signal transmitted from the image reading apparatus, in accordance with the information relating to the permission/prohibition.

9. An image forming method according to Claim 8, wherein said image processing procedure performs processing for printing the image signal.

10. An image forming method according to Claim 8, wherein the image signal is a compressed image signal, and wherein said image processing procedure performs expansion processing of the compressed image signal.

11. An image communication system comprising:

an image reading apparatus comprising:

selection means for selecting and connecting one of a plurality of image forming apparatuses,

first determination means for determining whether or not input of management information relating to a user is to be requested of the user in accordance with a request for input received from the selected image forming apparatus,

input means for inputting the management information and

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transmitting the input management information to the selected image forming apparatus, in accordance with a determination of the first determination means,

second determination means for determining information relating to permission/prohibition of image reading of an image of an original transmitted from the selected image forming apparatus, in accordance with the input and transmitted management information, and

image reading means for reading the image of the original, based on a determination of the second determination means, and for transmitting an image signal representing the read image to the selected image forming apparatus; and

an image forming apparatus comprising:

request means for transmitting a request for input of the management information when said image forming apparatus is selected by said image reading apparatus,

third determination means for determining permission/prohibition of image reading based on the management information transmitted from said image reading apparatus, in accordance with the request for input, and for transmitting information relating to the permission/prohibition to said image reading apparatus, and

image processing means for receiving and processing an image signal transmitted from said image reading apparatus, in accordance with the information relating to the permission/prohibition; and

communication means for performing communication of information between said image reading apparatus and said image forming apparatus.

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13. A communication method comprising the step of:
executing in an image reading apparatus:

a first determination procedure for determining whether or not input if management information relating to a user is to be requested of the user, in accordance with a request for input received from the selected image forming apparatus,

a second determination procedure for determining information relating to permission/prohibition of image reading of an image of an original transmitted from the selected image forming apparatus, in accordance with the input and transmitted management information, and

an image reading procedure for reading the image of the original, based on a determination in the second determination procedure, and for transmitting an image signal representing the read image to the selected image forming apparatus; and

executing in the selected image forming apparatus:

a request procedure for transmitting a request for input of the management information to the image reading apparatus,

a third determination procedure for determining permission/prohibition of image reading, based on the management information transmitted from the image reading apparatus, in accordance with the request for input, and for transmitting the information relating to the permission/prohibition to the image reading apparatus, and

an image processing procedure for receiving and processing an image signal transmitted from the image reading apparatus, in accordance with the information relating to the permission/prohibition.

14. A communication method according to Claim 13, further comprising the step of communicating information between the image reading apparatus and the image forming apparatus via a local area network.

~~15. A computer readable memory storing a program, the program comprising:~~

program codes for a selection process for selecting and connecting one of a plurality of image forming apparatuses;

program codes for a first determination process for determining whether or not input of management information relating to a user is to be requested of the user, based on information received from the selected image forming apparatus;

program codes for an input process for inputting the management information and transmitting the input management information to the selected image forming apparatus in accordance with a determination in the first determination process;

~~program codes for a second determination process for determining~~

information relating to permission/prohibition of image reading of an image of an original transmitted from the selected image forming apparatus, in accordance with the input and transmitted management information; and

program codes for an image reading process for reading the image of the original based on a determination in the second determination process, and for transmitting an image signal representing the read image to the selected image forming apparatus.

16. A computer readable memory according to Claim 15, wherein the image reading process compresses the image signal and then transmits the compressed image signal.

17. A computer readable memory storing a program, the program comprising:

program codes for a request process for transmitting a request for input of management information relating to a user of an image reading apparatus to the image reading apparatus when an image forming apparatus is selected by the image reading apparatus;

program codes for a determination process for determining permission/prohibition of image reading based on the management information transmitted from the image reading apparatus, in accordance with the request for input, and for transmitting information relating to the permission/prohibition to the image reading apparatus; and

program codes for an image process for receiving and processing an image signal transmitted from the image reading apparatus in accordance with the information relating to the permission/prohibition.

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18. A computer readable memory according to Claim 17, wherein the image process performs processing for printing the image signal.

19. A computer readable memory according to Claim 17, wherein the image signal is a compressed image signal, and wherein the image process performs expansion processing of the compressed image signal.

20. A computer readable memory storing a program, the program comprising:

program codes for a selection process for selecting and connecting one of a plurality of image forming apparatuses;

program codes for a first determination process for determining whether or not input of management information relating to a user is to be requested of the user, in accordance with a request for input received from the selected image forming apparatus;

program codes for an input process for inputting the management information and transmitting the input management information to the selected image forming apparatus, in accordance with a determination in the first determination process;

program codes for a second determination process for determining information relating to permission/prohibition of image reading of an image of an original transmitted from the selected image forming apparatus, in accordance with the input and transmitted management information; and

program codes for an image reading process for reading the image of the original, based on a determination in the second determination process,

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and for transmitting an image signal representing the read image to the selected image forming apparatus;

program codes for a request process for transmitting a request for input of the management information to the image reading apparatus when the image forming apparatus is selected by the image reading apparatus;

program codes for a third determination process for determining permission/prohibition of image reading based on the management information transmitted from the image reading apparatus, in accordance with the request for input, and for transmitting the information relating to the permission/prohibition to the image reading apparatus; and

program codes for an image process for receiving and processing an image signal transmitted from the image reading apparatus, in accordance with the information relating to the permission/prohibition.

21. An authentication system comprising:

a first terminal apparatus capable of executing a plurality of functions; and

a second terminal apparatus for assigning and requesting execution of one of the plurality of functions,

wherein different authentication functions are set for each of the plurality of functions of said first terminal apparatus.

22. An authentication system according to Claim 21, wherein said first terminal apparatus comprises a printer.

23. An authentication system according to Claim 21, wherein said

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